

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: OGINO, et al.

Serial No.: 09/429,297

Filed: October 28, 1999

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE, SEMICONDUCTOR WAFER,
SEMICONDUCTOR MODULE, AND A METHOD OF
MANUFACTURING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

Group: 2822

Examiner: J. Mitchell

**REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION
AND FOR COMPLETE OFFICE ACTION**

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

March 10, 2003

Sir:

The Office Action mailed February 27, 2003, in connection with the above-identified application, is noted. Previously, Applicants have received a Notice dated December 20, 2002, indicating that the above-identified application is being processed under the Image Technology Pilot Project in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. It is also noted that under such project, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is not providing copies of U.S. patents and published U.S. patent applications cited by the Examiner during prosecution of the application.

However, it is noted that in the Office Action mailed February 27, 2003, in connection with the above-identified application, Japanese Patent Document

No. 11-54672 was cited, but was not included with the Office Action. It is also noted that under the aforementioned Pilot Project, cited foreign patents and published applications and non-patent publications are to be mailed by conventional processing. Since a copy of Japanese Patent Document No. 11-54672 was not included with the Office Action February 27, 2003, such Office Action was incomplete.

In addition, it is also noted that in the Office Action Summary for this Office Action mailed February 27, 2003, and while the Examiner has indicated on this Summary that claim 25 is objected to, the Examiner has not indicated the status of the remaining pending claims. Furthermore, while various bases for rejection of the claims on prior art grounds are set forth on pages 2-6 of this Office Action mailed February 27, 2003, no basis is set forth for rejection of claim 17; and the Examiner has not indicated in this Office Action mailed February 27, 2003, the status of claim 17.

Accordingly, the Office Action mailed February 27, 2003, is also incomplete for the following reasons:

1. The status of all pending claims is not set forth in the Office Action Summary; and
2. Claim 17 is not set forth in the detailed Action on pages 2-7 of this Office Action mailed February 27, 2003.

In view of all of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the Office Action mailed February 27, 2003 is clearly incomplete. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner issue a new, complete Office Action, providing a copy of the cited Japanese Patent Document No. 11-54672; indicating the status of all pending claims on the Office Action Summary; and referring to claim 17 in the Detailed Action.

Furthermore, it is respectfully requested that a new period for response be set, to begin with the date of mailing of the complete Office Action.

Favorable action by the Examiner, responsive to the foregoing requests, is respectfully solicited.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR § 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 503.37777X00) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY STOUT & KRAUS, LLP



William I. Solomon
Registration No. 28,565

WIS/nbf
Enclosures

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